

**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**  
**Date of Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2020 – 3:00 PM**  
**Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform**

**BOPC Chairperson Willie Bell called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 PM (September 17, 2020)**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Willie E. Bell, Chairperson	Yes	
Annie Mae Holt, Vice-Chairperson	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton (3:29 p.m.)	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Evette Griffie	Yes	
Jesus Hernandez	Yes	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Martin Jones	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	11	

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for Thursday, September 17, 2020.**

**Chairperson Bell** called the meeting to order and invited Chaplain Curtis Longstreet to provide the invocation.

**INVOCATION: Chaplain Curtis Longstreet**

**I. MOTION: To approve the Agenda.**

**Motion:** Commission Holley      **Second:** Vice-Chairperson Holt      **Discussion:** None.

**VOTE:**                      Yes = 10                      No = 0                      **Motion: PASSED**

**II. MOTION: To approve the September 10, 2020, Meeting Minutes with necessary corrections.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Holley      **Second:** Commissioner Jones      **Discussion:** None.

**Yes:** Chairperson Bell, Vice-Chairperson Holt, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Carter, Commissioner Griffie, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Holley, and Commissioner Jones

**No:** Commissioner Davis

**VOTE:**                      Yes = 9                      No = 1                      **Motion: PASSED**

The Board considered the following Business Items:

- Introduction of BOPC Staff
- Introduction of Chief of Police and DPD Staff
- Introduction of Elected Officials, VIPs, civic leaders or their representatives

**Chairperson's Report:** Chairperson Bell provided the following remarks: Chairperson Bell and Vice-Chairperson Holt provided reminders regarding the 2020 Census. Chairperson Bell highlighted commendations regarding Assistant Chief James E. White in recognition of his tremendous contributions to the Board, the DPD, and the City of Detroit. Chairperson Bell stated, "A.C. White did so much and a single resolution cannot include it all, so the Board does want to point to a few special achievements in his remarkable work with us, and for the contributions he made to this community:

- Assistant Chief White worked extensively to help bring the Department into compliance with the two federal consent decrees. Even after federal oversight ended, A.C. White still made sure audits and other operational practices continued to protect Civil Rights and keep DPD in compliance.

· A.C. White sat at the Board table with us many, many Thursdays – but he also worked extensively with us every other day and on everything: Audits, Policy Development, Policy Revisions, and Office Space. He was responsible when the Board moved to Public Safety Headquarters and when we moved our Office of the Chief Investigator and OCI staff to Merrill Plaisance. And he always showed the same respect, professionalism, and commitment no matter what the task was.

· The Board must say more about his work on policy, especially those involving body-worn camera and tasers because he made sure the equipment was right, the training was right, the implementation was right, and the use in the field is right today. Even as he was leaving, he still was ensuring that those details are in order – and that is why Detroit is the only major Department in the state to have and deploy Body Cameras throughout the department – and to require they work and get turned on.

· A.C. White facilitated and managed access of Department's advanced technology systems that enhance the OCI's investigative efforts as well as the Department's investigation: Records Management System, Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD), WatchGuard System, and much more of the nuts and bolts that essential to police work and public oversight and accountability.”

**Chairperson Bell** also made remarks regarding civilian oversight, recent impacts impacting law enforcement and criminal justice reform, and discussed the importance of addressing racial injustices, voting, and criminal justice reform. **Chairperson Bell** expressed that the remarks would be shared with the full Board for further reference.

**Resolution: Vice-Chairperson Holt and Interim Board Secretary White** read the resolution honoring Assistant Chief James E. White.

#### **RESOLUTION HONORING ASSISTANT CHIEF JAMES E. WHITE**

**WHEREAS** The distinguished career of Assistant Chief James White brought him into constant contact with the Board of Police Commissioners and the vital role of civilian oversight, both in law enforcement and in civil rights. In every endeavor, A.C. White showed the utmost knowledge, expertise, and pride in being a law enforcement professional and a member of the Detroit Police Department; and

**WHEREAS** James E. White was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on January 8, 1996, upon graduation from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy. Police Officer White began his career in the Sixth Precinct. He was also assigned to Internal Controls. On October 27, 2000, Officer White was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and re-assigned to the Sixth Precinct and later to Northwestern District IOU. Sgt. White was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on June 1, 2006 and assigned to the Operations Portfolio; and

**WHEREAS** On December 3, 2007, Lt. White was appointed to the rank of Commander and assigned to the Northeastern District, Western District, Special Projects Section, Training-Staff, Office of the Assistant Chief of Police, and Office of Civil Rights. Commander White was appointed to the rank of Deputy Chief on December 20, 2012 and re-assigned to the Assistant Chief of Police Office. On February 27, 2013, Deputy Chief White was appointed to the rank of Assistant Chief of Police; and

**WHEREAS** A.C. White – with vision, leadership, teamwork, and attention to detail – excelled in administration and policy. His close and effective collaboration with the Board of Police Commissioners helped ensure the best policy, practices, and procedures to keep Detroit a national leader in transparency and accountability. Assistant Chief White worked extensively to help bring the Department into compliance with the United States Federal Consent Decree Judgment; and

**WHEREAS** He is a graduate of Wayne County Community College and Wayne State University. He holds an Associate's Degree in General Studies and a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology, with a concentration in Psychology. He earned a Master of Science in Counseling from Central Michigan University. In 2018, he earned an MBA Certificate from the Wayne State Leadership Academy in the Mike Ilitch School of Business. He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and an ex-officio member of Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. A state-certified counselor, he is involved with numerous organizations, where his contributions and leadership will continue.

#### **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the City of Detroit, recognizes and honors the commitment and devoted spirit of Assistant Chief James E. White. His unmatched and relentless pursuit of effective organizational management is greatly appreciated and has proven to be an invaluable asset for the entire department.

We thank and congratulate you for a job well done, Assistant Chief James E. White.

**Commissioner Burch** moved to adopt the resolution honoring Assistant Chief James E. White. **Commissioner Brown** seconded. Discussion.

**III. VOTE: Yes = 11 No = 0 Motion: PASSED**

**Resolution: Interim Board Secretary White** read the resolution honoring Corporal Bryant Searcy (Posthumously).

**RESOLUTION HONORING  
CORPORAL BRYANT SEARCY  
(POSTHUMOUSLY)**

**WHEREAS** Bryant Searcy was educated in the Detroit Public School System and graduated from Detroit Central High School. Corporal Bryant Searcy was a loving husband and father to his wife Shery and daughter Chasadie; and

**WHEREAS** Bryant Searcy grew up in a loving home and accepted Christ into his heart at a young age under the leadership of Pastor E.L Branch of Third New Hope Baptist Church. He was a dedicated and active member of the church singing in the Youth Chorale, volunteering, and serving as a Senior Saint and in the Security Ministries; and

**WHEREAS** Bryant Searcy was hired by the Wayne County Sheriff Department as a police officer in November 2002. His leadership and aptitude in his assignments was acknowledged, and Deputy Searcy was appointed to the rank of Corporal on November 12, 2005; and

**WHEREAS** Corporal Searcy loved and lived life to the fullest and encouraged those around him to do the same. His favorite quote was "live in the moment and enjoy the journey." During his law enforcement career, he received numerous awards, letters of appreciation, and other accolades. Corporal Searcy was a consummate professional and well-loved by co-workers; and

**WHEREAS** Corporal Searcy diligently served the Wayne County Sheriff's Department and the citizens of Wayne County for 18 years. His loyalty, integrity, professionalism, and standard of commitment was a credit to the Wayne County Sheriff Department; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED** That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of the city of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution posthumously in recognition of Corporal Bryant Searcy's dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and devotion to the citizens of the Wayne County and throughout the city of Detroit merit our highest regards.

**Commissioner Brown** moved to adopt the resolution honoring Corporal Bryant Searcy (Posthumously). **Commissioner Davis** seconded. Discussion.

**IV. VOTE: Yes = 11 No = 0 Motion: PASSED**

**Facial Recognition Technology System: Chief Legal Counsel Megan Moslimani, City of Detroit Law Department, representing Corporation Counsel Lawrence Garcia: Chief Legal Counsel Moslimani** provided her legal opinion on behalf of Corporation Counsel Lawrence Garcia on the matter involving the Board's authority regarding the Department's use of the Facial Recognition Technology: Chief Legal Counsel Moslimani stated that her legal opinion is that the Board's authority to ban the Department's use of Facial Recognition Technology is not within the charter-mandated powers delegated to the Board of Police Commissioners. Attorney Moslimani expressed that she does not think the Board has the power to revoke the use of the FRT Technology and software. The Board has supervisory powers; however, those are broad, noting the Board's powers does not focus on preserving public peace, preventing crime, making arrests, and enforcing the laws of the State of Michigan and U.S. Constitution; however, the Board's powers are primarily focused on the approval of the DPD's budget, discipline, and other special powers. Attorney Moslimani stated the Charter does not address a specific power on what the motion is based, adding the legal opinion of the City Law Department is that the Board does not have the power to prohibit the Department from using the software system.

**Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police's Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information:**

**First Assistant Chief Lashinda Stair** representing Chief of Police **James E. Craig** reported on the following items: Officers Injured in the Line of Duty; Comp Stat Crime and Statistical Data for the reporting period, the Department's COVID-19 stats, and recent critical incidents impacting the Detroit Police Department and the community. See attached Meeting Transcripts for more information.

Comp Stat Data Provided: (See Full Report in Packet) as of September 17, 2020							
Part I Violent Crimes:	Criminal Homicides:	Sexual Assaults:	Aggravated Assaults	Non-Fatal Shootings:	Robbery:	Carjacking:	Total:
<b>Totals:</b>	+21%	-31%	+23%	+52%	-17%	-8%	12% Increase in Part I Violent Crimes
Property I Crimes:	Burglaries:	Larcenies	Motor Vehicle Thefts				
<b>Totals:</b>							-22% Decrease in Part I Property Crime
							-12% Decrease in Part I Violent Crime

**Protests:** No Protests this weekend; however a protest is scheduled in Warren; **Guns:** Officers seized (101) guns; (7) long guns seized; (95) CCW arrests; 783 calls for service that included a gun nexus. **Traffic and Drifting with Donut Activities:** (6) felony arrests; (5) weapons recovered; (118) tickets issued; (19) vehicles impounded and officers conducted (77) traffic stops just over the past weekend and will continue to perform detail. **Barricaded Gunman Incident:** Officers were involved in a 30-hour standoff on west side of Detroit resulting in the safe release of two (2) hostages, and a suicide death of the barricaded suspect gunman who suffered mental illnesses, also noting: **Recruit Graduation:** An upcoming graduation ceremony will take place highlighting (27) new police officers who will be assigned on Monday, September 21, 2020.

**Commissioner Davis** requested an update on the City-wide environmental audit. **Commissioner Burch** commented that the FRT will be put to rest and thanked the City Law Department Attorney for providing her legal opinion. Commissioner Burch also thanked Assistant Chief White regarding mental health awareness and noted his collaboration with the organization of Detroit I. **Commissioner Brown** thanked the Department for their work and service and commended the Department for recovering weapons from the street. **Commissioner Brown** commended the Department on the recent intermural softball tournament. **First Assistant Chief Stair** also noted that she was the lead person on I Detroit Organization. **Commissioner Brown** requested information on whether complaints can be settled and resolved within the station as oppose to every complaint transferring to the OCI. **Chairperson Bell** clarified that based on charter mandates, OCI is required to receive and investigate all police misconduct complaints. **Commissioner Davis** asked of the 27 new recruit officers, how many were from Detroit and how many were African-Americans.

Also, **Chairperson Bell** acknowledged Commissioner Rev. Holley regarding the tribute plaque to Assistant Chief James E. White and congratulated Assistant Chief White on his future endeavors.

**PRESENTATION(S) TO THE BOARD: A. Board's Policy Division – Interim Secretary to the Board/Executive Manager of Policy presented on (4) policy directives for the Board's consideration and vote.**

**Ms. White** provided a brief overview of (4) policy directives requiring the Board's final vote of approval before implementation within the Department's Manual Directive System. Please see Policy PowerPoint Presentation on the Board's website for more information and previous Board policy presentations for Board policy recommendations.

**V. Motion to Approve Body Worn Camera Policy Directive 304.6.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Holley      **Second:** Commissioner Burch      **Discussion:** None.

**Yes:** Chairperson Bell, Vice-Chairperson Holt, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Holley, and Commissioner Jones

**No:** None

**Abstain:** Commissioner Burton

**VOTE:** Yes = 8 No = 0 Abstain = 1 **Motion: PASSED**

**VI. Motion to Approve Taser X2 Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Policy Directive 304.7.**

**Motion:** Vice-Chairperson Holt **Second:** Commissioner Jones **Discussion:** Commissioner Brown inquired whether the policy addressed whether Department members were disallowed from carrying Taser X2 weapons during their secondary assignments. **Interim Board Secretary White** responded and also stated that members were prohibited from carrying weapons while off duty. **Ms. White** added the approval of this policy is conditioned upon alignment with the recent Board-approved use-of-force policies outlining the de-escalation continuum and new policy requirements.

**Yes:** Chairperson Bell, Vice-Chairperson Holt, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Holley, and Commissioner Jones

**No:** None

**Abstain:** Commissioner Burton

**VOTE:** Yes = 8 No = 0 Abstain = 1 **Motion: PASSED**

**VII. Motion to Approve Property Control Policy Directive 306.3.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Holley **Second:** Commissioner Jones **Discussion:** Commissioner Burton indicated the community had not had the opportunity to weigh in on the policy, which he just viewed the policy today, and more dialogue was needed prior to this vote.

**Yes:** Chairperson Bell, Vice-Chairperson Holt, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Holley, and Commissioner Jones

**No:** Commissioner Brown

**Abstain:** Commissioner Burton

**VOTE:** Yes = 7 No = 1 Abstain = 1 **Motion: PASSED**

**VIII. Motion to Approve Foot Pursuit Policy Directive 202.7.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Brown **Second:** Commissioner Holley **Discussion:** Commissioner Burch asked whether this policy directive addressed safety protocols involved for the law enforcement member. **Interim Board Secretary White** stated the policy directive outlines when it is permissible for members to engage in a foot pursuit and when to disengage or refrain from engaging in a foot pursuit. **Commissioner Burton** expressed that the Board had not had the opportunity to weigh in, and therefore requested additional time to review the policy directive.

**Yes:** Chairperson Bell, Vice-Chairperson Holt, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Holley, and Commissioner Jones

**No:** None

**Abstain:** Commissioner Burton

**VOTE:** Yes = 8 No = 0 Abstain = 1 **Motion: PASSED**

**Report from Interim Board Secretary/Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:** Ms. White reported on the following items:

1. FOIA Request from the Law Offices of Jermaine A. Wyrick P.L.L.C. dated 9/7/20
2. Weekly DPD Facial Recognition Report 09/7/20 – 09/13/20
3. NACOLE 2020 Conference Meeting

**Unfinished Business.**

**IX. Motion to Begin to Post the Position for Office of the Chief Investigator with the City of Detroit's main Human Resources Department.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Burton      **Second:** Commissioner Davis      **Discussion:** None.

**Yes:** Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Burton, and Commissioner Davis

**No:** Chairperson Bell, Commissioner Holley, and Commissioner Jones

**Abstain:** Vice-Chairperson Holt and Commissioner Hernandez

**VOTE:**                      Yes = 4                      No = 3                      Abstain = 2                      **Motion: FAILED**

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Please refer to the City Law Department's Legal Opinion which discusses the **Board's Bylaws, Article V, Section (3)(c) Conducting Board Meetings and Business.** The Board's Bylaws states in relevant part, " c) A quorum and the affirmative vote of the majority of the Board members present shall be required [under] to carry a motion, proposal or adopt recommendations." (*Id.* at 9).

**New Business.**

**X. Motion to Create a Policy for the 1033 Department of Defense Program to protect citizens.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Burton      **Second:** Commissioner Brown      **Discussion:** **Commissioner Brown** inquired whether we have an agreement or soft policy agreement. **First Assistant Chief Stair** expressed that she would provide an update on the program information provided in July. **Commissioner Holley** suggested we should have a discussion before we have a policy. **Commissioner Burton** stated that based on what has taken place across the county, it is the Board's responsibility to create a policy to protect our community. **Commissioner Hernandez** asked whether the maker of the motion would be taking the lead to draft a policy.

**Yes:** Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Burch, Commissioner Burton, Commissioner Davis, and Commissioner Jones

**No:** Chairperson Bell, Vice-Chairperson Holt, Commissioner Hernandez, and Commissioner Holley

**VOTE:**                      Yes = 5                      No = 4                      **Motion: PASSED**

**Announcements:** **Chairperson Bell** announced the following:

- A. Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., BOPC Virtual Meeting
- B. Next Community Meeting:** Thursday, October 8, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., BOPC Virtual Meeting

**Oral Communications/Public Comments.**

**Chairperson Bell** recognized Commissioner Jones. **Commissioner Jones** moved for adjournment.

**Motion:** Commissioner Jones      **Second:** Commissioner Hernandez      **Discussion:** None.

**VOTE:**                      Yes = 9                      No = 0                      **Motion: PASSED**

**Chairperson Bell** adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.